

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

This paper is herewith filed in response to the Examiner's final Office Action mailed on May 15, 2006 for the above-captioned U.S. Patent Application. The Examiner objects to claims 13, 19 and 24; and rejects claims 1-12, 14-17, and 27-29.

More specifically, the Examiner objects to claims 19 and 24 for a lack of variable representation; rejects claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-10, 11-12, 14-17, and 28-29 under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Nieczyporowicz (2002/0097703); rejects claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nieczyporowicz in view of Jones (US5,696,789); rejects claims 7-8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nieczyporowicz in view of Henry (2003/0154223); rejects claim 27 over Nieczyporowicz in view of Callaway (US6,922,432); objects to claim 13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicates it would be allowable if written in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim; and allows claims 18-26. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance.

The Applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement is attached to cite references as found in Nieczyporowicz (2002/0097703).

The Office Action is respectfully addressed below.

Regarding the objections to claims 19 and 24, claims 19 and 23 have been amended to delete "M." Further, the Applicants note that claim 19 presently recites that "L is an integer." Further, regarding the variable "P" in claim 24 the Applicants note that this variable is defined in claim 23 from which claim 24 depends. For at least these reasons the Applicants contend that the objections are seen as overcome and the Applicants respectfully request the objections to claims 19 and 24 be removed.

Claims 1-11, and 27-29 are herein cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

S.N. 10/610,968
Art Unit 2611

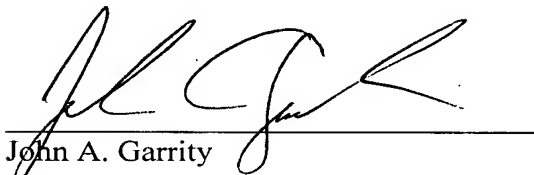
Claim 13 has been amended to be in independent form and to include the limitation of independent claim 11 from which it depended. Further, claims 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17 have been amended to depend from claim 13.

The Applicants request that the Examiner allow claims 13 and 18-26 as indicated in the Allowable Subject Matter section of the Office Action. Further, as claims 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17 have been amended to depend from claim 13 all the claims 12-26 are seen as allowable. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner remove the rejection of these claims and allow all the claims 12-26.

The Applicants respectfully submits that the cancellation of claims 1-11, and 27-29 should not be interpreted as a response to or an agreement with the rejections raised by the Examiner, as the claim cancellations are made for the express purpose of advancing issuance of the allowed claims so noted by the Examiner. The Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation or divisional applications to further prosecute one or more of the canceled claims.

In view of the current amendments and remarks above the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner pass pending claims 12-26 to issue. The undersigned representative welcomes the opportunity to resolve any matters that may remain, formal or otherwise, via teleconference at the Examiner's discretion.

Respectfully submitted:



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

8/14/2007
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